



For Immediate Release
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ALLEGATIONS OF MISCONDUCT

SEAT PLEASANT, MD. - Earlier today, the Seat Pleasant Police Department responded to an inquiry from the news media concerning allegations of misconduct regarding the background investigation of Chief of Police Devan A. Martin.

It has been brought to the attention of the Department that a former City employee who was disciplined for serious acts of misconduct violations and is now separated from the City reported to the Maryland Police Training Commission allegations that an employee of the Police Department falsified the results of a truth verification examination. It is further alleged that these actions were given at the directive of Chief Devan A. Martin regarding his truth verification examination.

Upon learning of the allegations, the department launched an administrative inquiry to determine the veracity of the claims. The matter was subsequently forwarded to the State Prosecutors Office of Maryland at the request of Maryland Police Training Commission for investigation.

As required by state statute, individual's undergo rigorous background investigation including but not limited to a truth verification examination, psychological, drug screening, and medical physical as well as meet all the minimum requirements established by the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission. Additionally, the Maryland Police Training Commission are mandated to conduct audits of the department hiring standards and background files. State statute requires MPCTC to audit agencies every three years the Seat Pleasant Police Department was audited in April 2019.

City of Seat Pleasant Chief Operating Officer, Jeannelle B. Wallace stated, "Based on the information, and documentation that I have reviewed and information that was relayed to me from the command staff of the department, it does not appear that there was any wrongdoing on the part of the leadership or the Chief. This smear campaign is the result of a disgruntled former employee."

Chief Martin and the Seat Pleasant Police Department remain committed to the core values of the department and are cooperating fully with the Office of the State Prosecutor's investigation.

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